

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT NEWSLETTER

December 2010

SINCE 1991



HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

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President's Message

By Judy Ann Morris
jamorris189@yahoo.com



Happy Holidays!

Happy Holidays to everyone. I wish you happy family times, great food and good times with friends. I hope that you aren't so busy that you don't have time to enjoy a traditional holiday movie or two. I start my holiday season with my favorite movies *Meet Me in St. Louis* and *White Christmas*. The rest of the family likes to watch the marathon days of the very funny *A Christmas Story*. All of these movies are just great for making me slow down and enjoy the season.

Just because we are adults doesn't mean we can't have a list for Santa Claus even if you are your own Santa Claus. On my list this year is a generator for our home. Not really romantic but oh, how wonderful it will be to have during any kind of electrical disaster. Make this December your month to give the gift of preparedness. Think about fire extinguishers, "Grab n Go" bags, safety lighting, complete first aid kits, water and light sticks. Let your imagination be your guide. Watch for bargains and sales to stock your supplies.

Lastly, I want to thank you for the opportunity of being your CERT President the last two years. I am looking forward to working with the new officers and the programs that have been planned for 2011. My heart has always been in working in the neighborhoods helping them with our "Neighbor Helping Neighbor" program. I plan to be even more active in 2011 helping residents realize that they can't control the disasters in their lives, but they can control how to prepare and how to respond to them.

Let me take this time to wish you all a wonderful, healthy and prosperous 2011.

Upcoming Events

- There will not be a December management meeting
- January 6, 2010 - 6:00pm: Management Meeting in the EOC open to all HB CERT Members
- Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. Date is listed below:

- Saturday, December 4, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30p.m.
- Wednesday, December 10, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 6, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, January 8, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30p.m.
- To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277. Class location is in HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

Save-A-Life Saturday Schedule

Class 1: Disaster & Terrorism Preparedness

April 16, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn what threats Huntington Beach residents face, how the City will respond in a disaster, and how you can get your home, family, neighborhood, school and/or business prepared to respond to emergencies. **Lunch Provided**

Class 2: Disaster First Aid (Medical Ops I & II)

May 21, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn creative first aid solutions to common injuries resulting from an earthquake, or other disasters, and the ABC's of disaster first aid. Additional topics include splints, slings, treating burns, impaled objects and shock. Learn how to triage disaster victims. **Lunch Provided**

Class 3: Light Search & Rescue/Fire Suppression

June 18, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Fire Training Center

Learn how to do a safety size-up, lift 1000+ pounds using simple leverage techniques, properly search for trapped victims, shore up an unsafe structure, and safely move the injured. Learn to use a fire extinguisher and put out a live fire, fire safety and prevention, how to shut off utilities and secure items that may cause injuries in an earthquake. Finish the class with a disaster drill that will test your newly acquired skills. **Lunch Provided**

Class 4: Disaster Living

July 16, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn how and where to set up an outdoor shelter in a disaster. Whether in your yard or at a park, you will have to care for yourself and neighbors until the Red Cross establishes indoor shelters. Learn skills such as tenting, outdoor cooking and sanitation. **Lunch Provided**

For more information, go to the CERT website:
www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert



CLASS 1

Disaster Preparedness Speakers Available

It is time to schedule a Disaster Preparedness Talk for your neighborhood, business, school, civic organization or church. This is a perfect way to introduce our "Save-A-Life" Saturday Classes to the residents of Huntington Beach. It is easy and it is FREE!

Five Simple Steps:

1. Find a place to host an hour-long presentation given by a trained Hbfd CERT Volunteer Speaker.

2. Choose a convenient date and time for your group.

3. Call the CERT Message Line (714-536-5974) or email Judy Ann Morris at jamorris189@yahoo.com (please put CERT in the subject line) with your contact information, the date, and time you have determined. Please give us at least three weeks notice and we will do our best to accommodate your group.

4. CERT will provide a flyer to distribute to your neighborhood or group.

5. Provide simple refreshments to be enjoyed at the end of the meeting. Our CERT Speaker will provide all printed material and even bring a door prize for your guests.



Why I joined CERT

by Michael Depin

Growing up in Southern California I have experienced a few large earthquakes and then, as an adult living in Huntington Beach, I had the opportunity to experience flooding.

When I began my career in the specialty construction industry and worked with a well known Los Angeles structural engineering firm, my responsibility was to make sure the data centers we were building were structurally sound. I learned what type of disasters we could encounter.

When we looked around our home we decided to create our own family preparedness sports bag and individual "Grab and Go" bags for each of us, including some of the kids' toys. That was back in 1985.

At the same time, I took over management of a sales office with three sales people and four office personnel. I brought the safety concept to work and provided each sales person with an emergency kit for their car and stockpiled the

office with provisions for one week. I guess you can say I was doing in the 80's what CERT recommends now.

As I continued in the construction industry, some of my work took me into police and fire dispatch centers where I was first introduced to CERT. These experiences made me realize the effects of disasters on buildings and infrastructures.

Having lived in Huntington Beach since 1972, I felt it was a good time to give back to my city. CERT is the direction I chose to volunteer my efforts to make a difference in my city.

Today I have been working with CERT for a short time and feel that if one has any concern for the well being of their family, friends and neighbors, they should take the "Save-A-Life Saturday" classes to learn how to ensure everyone's safety.

CONGRATULATIONS GO OUT TO OUR NEW CERT "HAMS"

By Tara A. Fort

CERT's Communication Team Leader John Fort and teacher Peter Petrelis of the HB CERT Communication Ham Radio Team, announced that on October 21, 2010 five amateur radio students passed their Federal Communication Commission (FCC) examination, and received their Technician Class License and call sign from the FCC.

We at CERT wish all the newly licensed amateur radio operators a warm welcome to the CERT family of ham operators. We look forward to their participation in the interesting upcoming 2011 CERT Communications Team activities.

Technician licenses and call signs were given to:

Hannah Kilbourne KJ6 LDW

Cindy McDaniel KJ6 LDZ

Steven Paczko KJ6 LDY

Linda Shaeffer KJ6 LEA

Maria Young KJ6 LDX

Both General and Extra Ham Radio Operator Licenses were awarded by the FCC to Peter Petrelis, K16 AEH. On Oct 21, Peter took both difficult exams consecutively and successfully completed all the requirements to earn both high level licenses.

How Do I Dispose Of These Products?

The County of Orange provides FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION CENTERS

Household hazardous wastes must be managed carefully and legally disposed of through a certified household hazardous waste collection facility.

Items Accepted:

- Automotive products (batteries, motor oil, antifreeze, etc.)
- Aerosol cans (full or partially full)
- Compact fluorescent lamps (curly bulbs), fluorescent, neon, high density, mercury light bulbs
- Household batteries
- Radios, clocks, hair dryers
- Cell phones & circuit boards
- TV sets
- E-Waste (computer monitors, printers, etc.)
- Household cleaners & chemical solvents
- Thermometers (mercury)
- Hobby & pool supplies
- Pesticides & herbicides
- Thermostats
- Empty compressed gas cylinders
- Wood preservatives
- Paint

These items may NOT be placed in the trash, and trash containing these items will not be collected.

Huntington Beach residents may dispose of such wastes at the Rainbow Disposal facility located at 17121 Nichols Street (south of Warner Avenue, between Beach Boulevard and Got hard Street). This facility is open from Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., except on rainy days. Enter at gate # 6. There is no charge to Orange County residents. Proof of residency may be required. For information regarding the City's Hazardous Materials Disclosure Program, including frequently asked questions concerning hazardous materials, please click on www.rainbowdisposal.com/hhw.php

Hazardous waste is not accepted from businesses, schools, government agencies, churches or non-profit organizations. To obtain more information, call Orange County Waste and Recycling at their hotline, (714) 834-6752, or visit their web site at www.oilandfills.com

Hazardous Waste Not Accepted:

- Business generated waste
- Biological waste
- Radioactive waste
- Ammunition
- Compressed gas cylinders
- Explosives
- Asbestos

Additional information can be obtained at the following telephone numbers:

9-1-1 Hazardous Materials Emergencies
(714) 834-4000 Integrated Waste Management Department

(714) 433-6000 Health Care Agency (Environmental Health)

(800) 253-2687 CIWMB Recycling Hotline (Motor Oil)

(800) 876-4766 Orange County Poison Control Center

(800) 698-6942 Waste Alert to report illegal dumping

Collection centers are closed on: Rainy days, Christmas, Independence Day, Memorial Day, New Years Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving Day.

Disposal of Expired and Unused Medication

Most medicines used in a home are not considered hazardous waste. Although the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center will accept medications, they can also be disposed of in the trash after being secured in durable packaging. Specific disposal instructions can be found at www.oilandfills.com

Click on Hazardous Waste.

Stop & Swap

Visit the Stop and Swap! The Stop and Swap is a unique and free program that allows you to drop off household, yard, and car care products you no longer need and pick up others you can use. The Stop and Swap shares the same hours and is located at the Rainbow Disposal Household Hazardous Waste Center.

www.rainbowdisposal.com/hhw.php

SENIOR SATURDAY RAFFLE WINNER



Senior Saturday drawing winner Ronald M. Landau is retired and lives near the HB Civic Center with his wife Diana. As you can see from the above photo, he was very happy to win the 3-day emergency. He said will add it to his existing emergency supplies and create an Emergency Plan as his promise to ReadyOC.

**WE WISH YOU A SAFE
AND HAPPY HOLIDAY
SEASON**

Christmas Tree Safety

- Cut two to three inches off the bottom of a fresh tree and put the tree in water immediately. This prevents the sap from forming over the cut and allows the tree to absorb the water. Use a sturdy holder and daily fill it with water.

- Check lights carefully for broken sockets or frayed wires before you put them on your tree. Replace any strings that look damaged.

- Keep your tree away from heat sources, such as fireplaces and heaters, which will dry it out.

- Keep your tree out of the path of household traffic and don't let it block your exit in case you need to escape from a fire.

- Unplug the tree lights and any outdoor lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

- Avoid placing breakable ornaments with small parts on lower branches where children or pets can reach them. Ornaments and other holiday decorations should be non-combustible, or flame resistant.

Dispose of holiday trash and your Christmas tree safely, soon after the holiday is over.

Important: Never burn your Christmas tree in a fireplace or wood stove. Pines, firs and other evergreens have a high content of flammable turpentine oils. Burning the tree may contribute to creosote buildup and the risk of a chimney fire.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE HB NEWSLETTER STAFF

L to R: Anna, Art, Carol, Cynthia,
Judy Ann, Peter, Virginia



Brevyn



Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.



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Attention! If you want something placed in the Upcoming Events, e-mail Brevyn at bmettler@surfcity-hb.org

For those who do not receive the newsletter by email, you can go to the CERT website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert. In order to receive the email alert, click on newsletters, and then click on sign up for email alert. It's as simple as that!

For those of you who do not have computer access at home, we have made arrangements for you:

- Rodgers Senior Center at 1706 Orange Avenue, HB will print out a black and white copy for you.
- There will be a few copies outside the door to the EOC to which you are welcome.
- The Central Library has computer access for the public.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

CERT Website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert,
CERT Message line 714-536-5974, (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)